

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Johnson.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: Our amendment does not alter that particular portion of section 10.03. It does not reach that part of 10.03 where it says "or may submit the question of calling a constitutional convention to the voters of the State at any time". It leaves that intact.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Johnson, I think Delegate Miller's point is that if your amendment is adopted, you have not changed the second part of the sentence grammatically. The amended language would go to the second part and she is asking whether you would let Style make it clear that was not intended?

DELEGATE JOHNSON: Yes.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any further discussion?

*(There was no response.)*

Are you ready for the question?

*(Call for the question.)*

The Clerk will ring the quorum bell.

The question arises on the adoption of Amendment No. 7 to Committee Recommendations GP-7, GP-8, GP-9, GP-12, R&P-1 and LB-B as amended by Style Committee Report S&D-17, as modified. A vote Aye is a vote in favor of the amendment; a vote No is a vote against.

Cast your votes.

Has every delegate voted?

Delegate Boileau?

DELEGATE BOILEAU: No.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Boileau, are you as sad as you looked at that moment?

DELEGATE BOILEAU: Not quite, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: Have all the delegates voted? Does any other delegate desire to change the vote?

*(There was no response.)*

The Clerk will record the vote.

There being 47 votes in the affirmative and 61 in the negative, the motion is lost and the amendment is rejected.

Delegate Johnson, do you now desire to offer your Amendment J?

DELEGATE JOHNSON: This was the understanding of the sponsors of the

amendment, and I feel it my duty and responsibility to call up Amendment J, yes, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: Will the pages please distribute Amendment J?

This will be Amendment No. 8.

THE PRESIDENT: This will be Amendment No. 8. The Clerk will read the amendment.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 8 to Committee Recommendations GP-7, GP-8, GP-9, GP-12, R&P-1, and LB-3 as amended by Style Committee Report S&D-17 by Delegates Johnson, Della, Dorsey, Dukes, Hostetter, Jett, Kahl, Rush, Rybczynski, Siewierski, Soul, Stern, Sybert, H. Taylor, and Weidemeyer: On page 2, section 10.03, Constitutional Convention strike out all of lines 18 and 19 and insert in lieu thereof the words "The General Assembly may".

THE PRESIDENT: The amendment is submitted by Delegate Johnson and seconded by the co-sponsors. The Chair recognizes Delegate Johnson.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: Mr. President and ladies and gentlemen of the Convention; the purpose of this amendment is to provide that prior to the calling of a constitutional convention by the legislature or prior to a constitutional convention, the question must be put on referendum. We are deleting the first portion of section 10.03, so that it would read, in effect, "the General Assembly may submit the question of calling a constitutional convention to the voters of the State at any time." It would require only majority action of the legislature to set up the machinery to do so, but the question would be put to all the citizens of the State as to whether or not they would like to have the constitutional convention. Kindly bear in mind that regardless of this action, at least every twenty years the action will be placed on the referendum ballot.

May I reiterate that at least thirty-six states require action by more than a simple majority of the General Assembly. We sincerely believe it is a serious mistake in constitutional drafting to require the calling of a constitutional convention by majority action of the General Assembly alone, particularly when you consider that it takes three-fifths, and rightfully so, we believe, three-fifths action of the General Assembly just to make an amendment to the Constitution.

It is just inconsistent. You require, under section 10.02, for three-fifths action of